

**RECORD OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN SYSTEM BOARD OF REGENTS**

Thursday, June 4, 2020
12:45 p.m.

By WebEx Teleconference
1860 Van Hise Hall
1220 Linden Drive
Madison, Wisconsin

-President Petersen presiding-

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The recording of this meeting's open session is available at: [June 4, 2020 Webcast](#)

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CALLING OF THE ROLL

PRESENT: Regents Robert Atwell, Scott Beightol, Amy Bogost, Héctor Colón, José Delgado, Michael Grebe, Mike Jones, Tracey Klein, Becky Lezow, Edmund Manydeeds, Andrew Petersen, Cris Peterson, Corey Saffold, Carolyn Stanford Taylor, Karen Walsh, Kyle Weatherly, and Olivia Woodmansee.

UNABLE TO ATTEND: Regent Eve Hall

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DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS

[\[Recording: 00:02:36\]](#)

Before considering any items on the open session agenda, President Petersen asked if any Board members wished to declare any conflicts of interest as per Regent Policy Document 2-4, "Ethics and Conflict of Interest Policy for the UW System Board of Regents."

No conflicts were declared.

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WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

[\[Recording: 00:02:54\]](#)

Introduction of Newly-Appointed Regents

President Petersen introduced three new members of the Board.

Regent Amy Blumenfeld Bogost

Amy Blumenfeld Bogost is an attorney with Bogost & Associates in Madison. Her work is focused on ensuring justice for survivors of sexual violence and establishing training for attorneys to help aid survivors of sexual assault on campuses. Regent Bogost has taught at UW Law School's National Tribal Trial College, and she has worked with high schools, colleges, and tribal colleges on the implementation of Title IX procedures. She earned her bachelor's degree from UW-Madison and a law degree from Chicago-Kent College of Law.

Regent Bogost reflected on the many generations of her family who have benefitted from the University of Wisconsin System, including Regent Emeritus Laurence Weinstein, one of the past presidents of the Board of Regents. Stating that education is a means of progress for the community, the state, and the world, Regent Bogost said she looked forward to working with her colleagues on the Board to keep the UW System and Wisconsin moving forward.

Regent Corey Saffold

Corey Saffold serves as the Board's new Non-Traditional Student Regent. Regent Saffold is currently a student at UW-Whitewater pursuing a degree in Criminology. He also works as the interim Director of Safety and Security at Verona Area School District and sits on the Office of School Safety Advisory Committee with the Wisconsin Department of Justice.

Regent Saffold said he was excited to bring his ideas to the table as a graduate of the UW Odyssey Project who went on to serve as a City of Madison police officer for over ten years. Regent Saffold shared that as a school resource officer he has learned how to work with community stakeholders to create restorative practices that reduce citations, arrests, and overall police involvement in schools.

Stating that he wants to inspire students to further their education, Regent Saffold shared that he also helped create the Verona Area High School's Black Student Union, which showcases Black excellence and takes students on tours of Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs).

Regent Kyle Weatherly

Kyle Weatherly is CEO and co-founder of Frontdesk, Inc. in Milwaukee, one of the largest and fastest-growing home-sharing companies in the United States. He is a graduate of UW-Madison, where he received his MPA in Public Management.

Regent Weatherly stated his appointment to the Board by Governor Evers was “the highest honor of my life.” Noting that this is a difficult time for his industry due to the pandemic, he thanked his Frontdesk colleagues for their support. He also expressed appreciation for his wife Ruby, who is a public health professional running a free STD clinic in Milwaukee and currently volunteers as a contact tracer as a member of the Milwaukee Board of Health.

Regent Weatherly said his parents instilled in him a deep appreciation of the socio-economic ladder that public colleges and universities provide to Wisconsin’s families. He noted that he has personally benefitted from having access to the world class instruction offered by UW-Madison, UW-Milwaukee, and Wisconsin’s technical colleges.

Other Introductions

President Cross introduced Dr. Connie Foster, who will serve as the new interim Chancellor of UW-River Falls effective July 1. Dr. Foster is a higher education and leadership consultant who spent 23 years as a faculty member and administrator at UW-River Falls. She previously served as interim chancellor at UW-River Falls from August 2008 to July 2009.

President Cross also introduced Tammy Evetovich, UW-Platteville’s new Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, and Pratima Gandhi, the new Chief Financial Officer and Vice Chancellor of Business Affairs at UW-Stevens Point.

Finally, President Cross thanked Provost Joanne Wilson for her 34 years of service at UW-Platteville and offered his best wishes for her retirement.

APPROVAL OF MEETING RECORDS

[\[Recording: 00:17:19\]](#)

Regent Beightol moved approval of the records of the April 2, 2020 meeting of the UW System Board of Regents, the April 16, 2020 meeting of the Executive Committee, and the May 7, 2020 special meeting of the UW System Board of Regents. The motion was seconded by Regent Walsh and approved on a voice vote.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD

[\[Recording: 00:17:54\]](#)

Report of the Wisconsin Technical College System Board

The report of the Wisconsin Technical College System Board had been provided. There were no comments or questions.

Graduate Outcomes

President Petersen called attention to a new report released by the UW System's Office of Policy Analysis and Research which merged graduation, residence, and earnings data for the first time to calculate the economic impact of a UW System education. The data shows UW System graduates earn a median salary of nearly \$50,000 annually just a year after earning their bachelor's degrees. After five years, graduates' median earnings top \$66,000.

President Petersen stated, "I have long believed there is no better investment for the state of Wisconsin than the UW System and that the UW System is also a terrific investment for our students as well. This data validates those beliefs. When Wisconsin taxpayers invest in the UW System, our universities produce educated, successful graduates who contribute to their communities and to the economy. When individuals invest in a UW System education, their earning potential skyrockets."

President Petersen also noted that 90% of in-state students and 15% of out-of-state students who graduate from a UW System campus remain in Wisconsin after graduation.

Blueprint for the University of Wisconsin System Beyond COVID-19

Following up on the Board's discussion at its last meeting on the "Blueprint for the UW System Beyond COVID-19," President Petersen said System leaders have since engaged with about 400 shared governance participants in three recent listening sessions that included all of the UW campus communities around the state.

President Petersen thanked Regents Atwell, Klein, Manydeeds and Walsh for participating in these listening sessions to hear first-hand people's priorities and concerns. He affirmed that engagement with shared governance representatives will continue: "As we continue to endure financial and operational challenges on our campuses that are known and unknown, this board cannot afford to overlook good ideas and reform principles supplied by our shared governance partners."

President Petersen invited Regent Walsh to give a brief summary of what she heard at the listening sessions. Regent Walsh said participants expressed a desire to be engaged and

included as part of the problem-solving process. She noted that several schools are already working on initiatives that may be useful if the Blueprint is implemented. Regent Walsh said she has found President Cross's weekly meetings with shared governance leaders to be very useful.

Update on the UW-River Falls and UW-Stevens Point Chancellor Searches

President Petersen briefly updated Regents on the ongoing leadership searches at UW-Stevens Point and UW-River Falls.

President Petersen said the search firm WittKieffer is now in the process of accepting nominations and applicant materials from candidates for the Chancellor position at UW-Stevens Point. He noted that Regent Karen Walsh, who is chairing the search, has regular engagement with the Stevens Point campus community.

President Petersen also announced that Regent Scott Beightol will serve as Chair of the search for a successor to UW-River Falls Chancellor Van Galen, who has accepted a new position as president of Missouri Southern State University. He indicated that the members of the Special Regent Committee and Search and Screen Committee would be announced in the coming months.

Update on the UW System President Search Process

Regent Vice President Michael Grebe provided an update on the UW System Presidential search process. The search committee recently met to select Dr. Jim Johnsen, President of the University of Alaska System, as the sole finalist.

After providing an overview of the nomination and selection process, Vice President Grebe noted that other candidates who were considered by the committee elected not to move forward in the search process due to a variety of factors, including concerns that the finalist announcement would negatively impact their ability to lead their current institution through the COVID-19 crisis.

Vice President Grebe said the next steps in the search process will be to hold a series of public interviews or Q&A sessions with Dr. Johnsen. He indicated that feedback from the various university constituencies will be reviewed and carefully considered by the search committee when it meets again to decide whether to recommend Dr. Johnsen to the Board of Regents.

Regent Atwell and Regent Stanford Taylor both thanked Vice President Grebe for providing additional information about the search committee's process.

As a member of the search committee, Regent Manydeeds emphasized that the search is not yet complete and that committee members will continue to consider the input of campus leaders, faculty, staff, students, and community members in making their final recommendation.

President Petersen thanked Vice President Grebe for his leadership as the chair of the search committee.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE SYSTEM

[\[Recording: 00:36:14\]](#)

Statement on the Death of George Floyd

Remarking on the recent death of George Floyd in Minneapolis, President Cross stated that changes are desperately needed to achieve justice for the victims of police violence. He said the university can and should help to educate and expand awareness of this issue, and must re-examine its own programs and practices related to the recruitment of students, faculty and staff of color, as well as its efforts to serve all members of the campus community.

President Cross also said that although he did not condone the violent acts perpetrated by those who are appropriating this tragedy for their own purposes, he was truly heartened by the many thousands of people from all walks of life who have taken to the streets across the country to peacefully express their belief in "liberty and justice for all."

COVID-19 Update

President Cross provided a brief update on the UW System's response to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. He noted that the Blueprint he presented at the Board's previous meeting included potential long-term strategies to help the UW universities continue to best serve the people of Wisconsin, and that these concepts have generated significant discussion about what the UW System's priorities should be and how it should plan for the future.

However, President Cross said the Blueprint does not address the UW System's short-term financial crisis, which has been exacerbated by anticipated delays in assessing the State's financial condition due to the postponement of the tax filing deadline. Noting that cuts to

higher education are already being announced in other states, he said the UW chancellors have been asked to prepare for various scenarios.

President Cross said the UW System is seeking ways to mitigate its expected cash flow problems by petitioning Governor Evers, Senate Majority Leader Fitzgerald, and Assembly Speaker Vos for immediate flexibility and regulatory relief, including permitting the university to open a line of credit, granting a one-time exemption from the statutory school year state date, and reducing the number of reports the UW System is required to submit annually.

President Cross noted the universities have already taken steps to implement furlough policies, lay off employees, and reduce costs by renegotiating vendor contracts, cancelling travel, and reducing purchasing, among other measures.

Update on Federal Title IX Regulations

President Cross said the UW System has convened a Systemwide group of experts to develop plans to modify policies, procedures, and practices in response to new federal regulations regarding investigations of sexual misconduct in higher education, which have an effective date of August 14, 2020.

President Cross said an initial review indicates the new regulations will impact how UW institutions respond to incidents of alleged sexual misconduct by students, faculty, and staff in a variety of ways, including requiring changes to the definition of sexual harassment and what is considered a university program or activity for Title IX purposes. The new regulations also include changes to investigations and hearing processes, with the requirement of live hearings with cross-examination.

President Cross explained that, because changes may be required to portions of the Wisconsin Administrative Code, Scope Statements have been sent to Governor Evers for review to begin the emergency and permanent rulemaking process. He stated that robust engagement from the campuses and shared governance will be sought on proposed changes as both the emergency and proposed rule-making process moves forward.

REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE

[\[Recording: 00:53:26\]](#)

President Petersen called upon Regent Manydeeds to present the report of the Audit Committee.

Regent Manydeeds reported that Chief Audit Executive Lori Stortz reviewed progress to date on the FY2020 audit plan and provided a high-level summary of recently-issued audits focused on the HR System, segregation of duties at UW-Madison, purchasing cards, payroll, offboarding for UWSA employees, the Student Information System and database security.

Regent Manydeeds said Ms. Stortz also discussed projects resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic and planning for the upcoming fiscal year. He said the committee members requested details on the university's policies and procedures regarding timely disbursements of CARES Act funds to students. The Audit Committee also received an update from Associate Vice President Katherine Mayer on pandemic-related disruptions to cybersecurity.

Regent Manydeeds said Title IX Coordinator Sarah Harebo provided an overview of the UW System's response to new Title IX regulations, and the committee members requested data regarding the timeline and outcomes for Title IX misconduct claims for the Audit Committee to evaluate the impact of the new regulations.

Finally, Regent Manydeeds reported that Director of Compliance and Integrity Katie Ignatowski gave a summary of the tools being developed to support campuses in compliance efforts during the COVID-19 crisis.

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REPORT AND APPROVAL OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE BUSINESS & FINANCE COMMITTEE

[\[Recording: 00:55:38\]](#)

President Petersen called upon Regent Beightol to present the report of the Business & Finance Committee.

Regent Beightol said the Business & Finance Committee heard presentations from the Executive Director of Trust Funds Charles Saunders and State of Wisconsin Investment Board analyst Rob Thornton on the UW System's trust funds quarterly investment report.

Regent Beightol reported the Business & Finance Committee re-approved two option periods for the UW System's current contract with Instructure for digital learning environment software, correcting a technical error which misstated the costs in the original contract summary provided to the Board.

Regent Beightol said the Business & Finance Committee also approved a service agreement between UW-Madison and InStride for two pilot programs to provide online education to employees. He noted the agreement requires no up-front payment and UW-Madison will receive a 60 percent share of tuition revenues.

Regent Beightol reported that the committee approved an exception to Regent Policy Document 31-15 to allow for the expenditure of the principal of a bequest for the benefit of the WUWM public radio station administered by UW-Milwaukee.

Finally, Regent Beightol said the Business & Finance Committee received updates from Vice President for Administration Rob Cramer on the Administrative Transformation Project and the administrative and human resource aspects of the UW System's COVID-19 response. Vice President Sean Nelson provided an update on the financial impacts of COVID-19 throughout the summer semester.

Regent Beightol moved for the adoption of Resolutions 11432, 11433, and 11434. The motion was seconded by Regent Delgado and approved on a voice vote.

Approval of Option Periods in the UW System Contract with Instructure

Resolution 11432 That, upon the recommendation of the President of the UW System, the UW System Board of Regents approves the exercise of the two option periods in the Instructure Contract, contingent on them meeting contract performance requirements. This request to approve option periods is due to a technical error in stating the costs at the time of the initial contract approval.

UW-Madison Contractual Service Agreement with Attainment Holdco, LLC d/b/a InStride

Resolution 11433 That, upon recommendation of the Chancellor of the University of Wisconsin-Madison and the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Board of Regents approves the contractual service agreement between the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System, doing business as UW-Madison, and Attainment Holdco, LLC d/b/a InStride.

UW-Milwaukee Request for an Exception to Board Policy on Large Unendowed Bequests

Resolution 11434 That, upon recommendation of the Chancellor of UW-Milwaukee and the Dean of the UWM College of Letters & Science, the University of Wisconsin Board of Regents approve an exception to RPD 31-15 to allow for the expenditure of the principal of the bequest from the Robert Meyer Trust.

REPORT AND APPROVAL OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

[\[Recording: 01:04:29\]](#)

President Petersen called upon Regent Klein to present the report of the Education Committee.

Regent Klein highlighted presentations made to the Education Committee on how the campuses have been addressing the challenges caused by COVID-19. Noting the stress felt at all levels of the UW System during this crisis, she said the committee members were impressed by the campus efforts and offered sincere thanks on behalf of the Board for their hard work.

Regent Klein reported that the Education Committee received updates on the Freshwater Collaborative and the Task Force for Advancing Teachers and School Leaders. She noted that discussion of the UW System's online learning initiative, which was funded by an anonymous donor, will be delayed until the committee's next meeting in August.

Regent Klein moved for the adoption of Resolutions 11435, 11436, 11437, 11438, 11439, 11440, 11441, 11442, 11443, 11444, 11445, 11446, 11447, 11448, 11449, 11450, and 11451. The motion was seconded by Regent Walsh and approved on a voice vote.

New Program Authorization (Implementation) Bachelor of Business Administration in Finance, UW-Green Bay

Resolution 11435 That, upon the recommendation of the Chancellor of UW-Green Bay and the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Chancellor is authorized to implement the Bachelor of Business Administration in Finance at the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay.

New Program Authorization (Implementation) Bachelor of Business Administration in Human Resource Management, UW-Green Bay

Resolution 11436 That, upon the recommendation of the Chancellor of UW-Green Bay and the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Chancellor is authorized to implement the Bachelor of Business Administration in Human Resource Management at the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay.

New Program Authorization (Implementation) Bachelor of Business Administration in Management, UW-Green Bay

Resolution 11437 That, upon the recommendation of the Chancellor of UW-Green Bay and the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the

Chancellor is authorized to implement the Bachelor of Business Administration in Management at the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay.

New Program Authorization (Implementation) Bachelor of Business Administration in Marketing, UW-Green Bay

Resolution 11438 That, upon the recommendation of the Chancellor of UW-Green Bay and the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Chancellor is authorized to implement the Bachelor of Business Administration in Marketing at the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay.

New Program Authorization (Implementation) Master of Science – Business: Analytics, UW-Madison

Resolution 11439 That, upon the recommendation of the Chancellor of UW-Madison and the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Chancellor is authorized to implement the Master of Science-Business: Analytics at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

New Program Authorization (Implementation) Bachelor of Arts in Computer Science, UW-Milwaukee

Resolution 11440 That, upon the recommendation of the Chancellor of UW-Milwaukee and the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Chancellor is authorized to implement the Bachelor of Arts in Computer Science at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

New Program Authorization (Implementation) Bachelor of Arts in Digital Arts and Culture, UW-Milwaukee

Resolution 11441 That, upon the recommendation of the Chancellor of UW-Milwaukee and the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Chancellor is authorized to implement the Bachelor of Arts in Digital Arts and Culture at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

New Program Authorization (Implementation) Doctor of Philosophy in Electrical Engineering, UW-Milwaukee

Resolution 11442 That, upon the recommendation of the Chancellor of UW-Milwaukee and the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Chancellor is authorized to implement the Doctor of Philosophy in Electrical Engineering at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

New Program Authorization (Implementation) Master of Urban Design, UW-Milwaukee

Resolution 11443 That, upon the recommendation of the Chancellor of UW-Milwaukee and the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Chancellor is authorized to implement the Master of Urban Design at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

New Program Authorization (Implementation) Bachelor of Science in Cybersecurity, UW-Platteville

Resolution 11444 That, upon the recommendation of the Chancellor of UW-Platteville and the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Chancellor is authorized to implement the Bachelor of Science in Cybersecurity at the University of Wisconsin-Platteville.

Annual Request for Funding from the Vilas Trust Fund for UW-Madison and UW-Milwaukee

Resolution 11445 That, upon the recommendation of the Chancellors of the University of Wisconsin-Madison, the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, and the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Board of Regents approves the total funding request of \$3,410,974 in net and unallocated income for submission to the Trustees of the William F. Vilas Trust Estate for fiscal year July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021, as provided by the terms of the Vilas Trust for the same fiscal year, for Support of Scholarships, Fellowships, Professorships, and Special Programs in Arts and Humanities, Social Sciences, Biological Sciences, Physical Sciences, and Music.

Approval of Changes to Regent Policy Document 20-2, "Student Evaluation of Instruction"

Resolution 11446 That, upon the recommendation of the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the UW System Board of Regents amends Regent Policy Document 20-2, "Student Evaluation of Instruction."

UW System 2020 Report on Faculty Promotions, Tenure Designations, and Other Changes of Status

Resolution 11447 That, upon the recommendation of the respective Chancellors and the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the 2020 Report on Faculty Promotions, Tenure Designations, and Other Changes of Status be approved.

Creation of the Schools of Design and Communication; Performing Arts; Behavioral and Social Sciences; Biology, Chemistry, and Biochemistry; Humanities and Global Studies; Mathematics, Computing, Physics and Astronomy; and Health Sciences and Wellness, UW-Stevens Point

Resolution 11448 That, upon the recommendation of the Chancellor of UW-Stevens Point and the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Board of Regents authorizes the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point to establish the Schools of Design and Communication; Performing Arts; Behavioral and Social Sciences; Biology, Chemistry, and Biochemistry; Humanities and Global Studies; Mathematics, Computing, Physics and Astronomy; and Health Sciences and Wellness.

New Program Authorization (Implementation) Bachelor of Science in Conservation Law Enforcement, UW-Stevens Point

Resolution 11449 That, upon the recommendation of the Chancellor of UW-Stevens Point and the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Chancellor is authorized to implement the Bachelor of Science in Conservation Law Enforcement at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point.

New Program Authorization (Implementation) Bachelor of Fine Arts in Graphic Design, UW-Stevens Point

Resolution 11450 That, upon the recommendation of the Chancellor of UW-Stevens Point and the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Chancellor is authorized to implement the Bachelor of Fine Arts in Graphic Design at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point.

New Program Authorization (Implementation) Bachelor of Arts in Media Studies, UW-Stevens Point

Resolution 11451 That, upon the recommendation of the Chancellor of UW-Stevens Point and the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the Chancellor is authorized to implement the Bachelor of Arts in Media Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point.

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REPORT AND APPROVAL OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE CAPITAL PLANNING & BUDGET COMMITTEE

[\[Recording: 01:11:15\]](#)

President Petersen called upon Regent Jones to present the report of the Capital Planning & Budget Committee.

Regent Jones reported the Capital Planning & Budget Committee discussed the UW System's semi-annual status report on leasing activity since December 1, 2019. Real estate specialist Ellen Rosner updated the committee on leases enacted in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, including providing university facilities to support those infected or exposed to the virus who are unable to safely quarantine at home.

Regent Jones said the Capital Planning & Budget Committee also received an update on the UW-managed capital project program's activities since December 1, 2019. He noted that the total value of the program has increased \$7.6 million over the last six months to \$133 million since its inception.

Regent Jones said Senior Associate Vice President Alex Roe presented a statistical overview of the 185 capital project requests valued at \$5.4 billion which were received by the Office of Capital Planning and Budget for the 2021-27 capital plan and the 2021-23 capital budget. He noted that these projects will be reviewed and prioritized for consideration at the Board's next regular meeting in August.

Regent Jones reported that the committee also heard a presentation on a process improvement strategy proposed by the UW System President's Office to improve capital project delivery.

Finally, Regent Jones said the Capital Planning & Budget Committee approved the design and construction of the Wang Chemistry Lab remodel project at UW-Madison, which will reconfigure a former electronics lab into a space suitable for chemical biology research.

Regent Jones moved for the adoption of Resolution 11452. The motion was seconded by Regent Klein and approved on a voice vote.

Authority to Construct the Chemistry 2nd Floor Wang Laboratory Renovation Project, UW-Madison

Resolution 11452 That, upon the recommendation of the Chancellor of UW-Madison and the President of the UW System, the UW System Board of Regents authorizes completion of design and the construction of the Chemistry 2nd Floor Wang Laboratory Renovation project for an estimated total project cost of \$1,369,000.

REPORT OF THE RESEARCH, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & INNOVATION COMMITTEE

[\[Recording: 01:15:23\]](#)

President Petersen called upon Regent Atwell to present the report of the Research, Economic Development & Innovation Committee.

Regent Atwell reported that the Research, Economic Development & Innovation Committee heard presentations from several UW-Milwaukee faculty members who are leading important research projects related to COVID-19 in the areas of freshwater science, economic development, and engineering.

Regent Atwell said the Research, Economic Development & Innovation Committee also heard from Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation Secretary Missy Hughes on rollout of \$75 million in small business grants. He encouraged his colleagues to spread the word about the grant application process to small business owners in their communities.

Finally, Regent Atwell reported that the Research, Economic Development & Innovation Committee also heard presentations about the 220 proposed and funding research projects at UW-Madison aimed at addressing the impacts of COVID-19.

UW SYSTEM 2020-21 ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET AND FEE SCHEDULES

[\[Recording: 01:22:20\]](#)

President Petersen emphasized the importance of continued investment in the UW System considering the difficult challenges the state is facing due to the COVID-19 pandemic. He noted that one key element of the UW System's proposed 2020-21 annual operating budget and fee schedules is that the average cost of attendance at a UW institution will go up by less than 1 percent for the third straight year.

President Petersen called upon Sean Nelson, Vice President for Finance, to lead the presentation of the UW System's 2020-21 annual operating budget request.

Vice President Nelson noted that the budget development process began in January and was built on pre-pandemic assumptions of revenues and expenses. He said the UW System is planning for campus-based instruction in fall 2020 and will be closely monitoring

preliminary enrollment numbers as well as state revenue estimates moving forward. He indicated that UW institutions continue to plan and prepare for multiple financial scenarios.

Vice President Nelson provided an overview of the estimated revenues for FY 2021, which are currently projected to total \$6.518 billion. He noted that state support and tuition, which account for 15% and 24% of estimated revenues respectively, are subject to fluctuations in state revenues and fall 2020 enrollments. Similarly, revenues from auxiliary operations (12%) will be dependent on the capacity of housing, dining, and other campus operations, while gifts, grants, and contracts (21%) are subject to market fluctuations.

Vice President Nelson highlighted planned increases in state support, including an additional \$6.8 million in ongoing base funding for the Dairy Innovation Hub benefitting UW-River Falls, UW-Platteville, and UW-Madison.

The UW System also currently expects to receive compensation reserve funding to support the balance of the first installment of the 2% pay plan, which took effect January 1, 2020, as well as the second installment, which will be effective January 1, 2021. Vice President Nelson said the System is waiting to hear from the state about the outcome of that funding increase.

Noting that the UW System is entering its eighth consecutive year of the tuition freeze, Vice President Nelson said the majority of UW institutions were projecting a decrease in tuition revenues, even prior to the pandemic. An increase of approximately \$33 million is expected from non-resident and professional school tuition increases approved by the Board in fall 2019 for UW-Madison.

Vice President Nelson also reviewed auxiliary rate proposals for housing, dining, and segregated fees and provided a summary of unrestricted program revenue balances.

Vice President Nelson said he will return to the Board to provide updates on the FY 2021 annual operating budget as new information becomes available over the course of the summer and fall.

President Petersen stated, "The University of Wisconsin System is indeed an invaluable asset. It is vitally important to the future of this state. The UW System deserves an infusion of investment. The returns have been calculated. They are significant and benefit us all. We need to continue to be strong advocates for the UW System."

Regent Stanford Taylor moved for the adoption of Resolution 11453. The motion was seconded by Regent Atwell.

Noting that he has only voted on tuition increases for non-resident students during his tenure on the Board, President Petersen said setting tuition rates is an important

responsibility of the Board of Regents and that a discussion about rational tuition policy is needed.

Responding to a question from President Petersen, Vice President Nelson said the UW System's obligation for the second installment of the pay plan will be approximately \$10 million if the expected state support is not received.

In addition to tracking the average cost of attendance for students, Regent Atwell said tracking the total cost per FTE student is also important because it highlights the impact of declining enrollments on the ability to fund the UW System.

With no further questions or comments, Resolution 11453 was approved on a voice vote.

UW System 2020-21 Annual Operating Budget

Resolution 11453 That, upon the recommendation of the President of the University of Wisconsin System, the 2020-21 operating budget be approved, including segregated fees, room and board, textbook rental, and estimated expenditures from program revenue fund balances as attached in the document, "2020-21 Operating Budget and Fee Schedules, June 2020".

STUDENT BEHAVIORAL HEALTH UPDATE ON COUNSELING EFFORTS DURING COVID-19 AND THE UW STUDENT BEHAVIORAL HEALTH INITIATIVE

[\[Recording: 1:48:38\]](#)

Stating that the safety and security of students, faculty and staff are a top priority for the Board, President Petersen noted that the significant mental and behavioral health challenges faced by campuses have been amplified by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

President Petersen called upon Harry Anderson, Dean of Students at UW-Superior, and Artanya Wesley, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs at UW-Whitewater, to provide an update on counseling efforts during this crisis, as well as specific steps the UW System Administration has taken on behalf of its Student Behavioral Health Initiative.

Dr. Wesley discussed the major challenges staff faced in providing telehealth counseling services, including the need to ensure confidentiality of virtual services, develop new administrative policies and procedures, and clear the regulatory hurdles which previously restricted the use of telehealth counseling services across state lines.

Dr. Wesley noted that the disruption caused by COVID-19 led to increasing levels of anxiety and stress for both students and staff. She indicated that summer contracts, furloughs, and COVID-19 leave have made it challenging to manage daily operations and the increased student caseload.

Dean Anderson said the transition to online instruction had significant impacts on students' academic and personal success. He explained that campuses reported a decrease in the utilization of counseling services during the initial transition from in-person to virtual or telehealth models, which was consistent with the timing of spring break for many institutions.

Dean Anderson reported that most traffic in the following weeks was comprised of students who were already engaged with campus counseling services. Campuses experienced different timing and rates of new students reaching out for support over the remainder of the spring term.

Dean Anderson said issues reported by students included stress; difficulties with motivation or engagement related to the transition to online learning; anxiety due to grades, employment, living arrangements, and finances; social isolation; depression; sleep problems; and increased substance abuse or other risky behaviors.

Dean Anderson reported that the impacts of COVID-19 were compounded for students of color, students in lower socioeconomic classes, and students who are members of other vulnerable populations. He noted that some students classified as essential workers had to balance work with education, while others had to take on childcare responsibilities for their parents.

Dean Anderson shared some of the recommendations resulting from the Student Behavioral Health Initiative, including:

- systemwide implementation of SilverCloud, a digital platform for behavioral health programming for students, faculty, and staff;
- implementation of Wisconsin Act 116, which requires higher education institutions to place contact information for suicide prevention hotlines on student ID cards;
- funding and support for the UW System Counseling Impact Assessment Report; and
- creation of a website for systemwide student behavioral health resources.

President Petersen commended staff for their exceptional work in transitioning these programs on short notice.

Linda Mulroy-Bowden, executive director of student life and development at UW-Platteville, joined Dean Anderson and Dr. Wesley in answering Regent's questions about the possibility of future contracts with telehealth providers, how UW counseling services are responding to rising rates of suicide ideation, plans for the rollout and promotion of the SilverCloud

platform, and how data from campus climate surveys will be incorporated into the Student Behavioral Health Initiative's recommendations.

President Petersen said the Board will continue to hear routine updates at future meetings on the progress of the Student Behavioral Health Initiative. On behalf of the Board, he expressed appreciation for the services provided by UW counseling staff.

TRANSFEROLOGY: UW SEAMLESS TRANSFER SOLUTION IMPLEMENTATION

[\[Recording: 02:20:07\]](#)

President Petersen called upon Associate Vice President Ben Passmore to lead a presentation on the Seamless Transfer Initiative, a key priority of the 2020FWD Strategic Framework, and the Transferology project, a pair of cloud-based applications which will replace the old Transfer Information System (TIS) and improve the transfer experience for students.

AVP Passmore reported that the Transferology project came in on-time, under-budget, and was accomplished with an unprecedented level of cooperation between all the public institutions of higher education in Wisconsin, including two tribal colleges.

AVP Passmore explained that the new transfer experience will be focused on putting useful tools in the hands of students, parents, and transfer professionals. He shared a brief video demonstrating how the new Transferology application will work from the student's perspective.

AVP Passmore thanked Regent Woodmansee for her "friendly oversight" and interest in this project. Regent Woodmansee said the many hours of hard work staff put into this effort is apparent when Transferology is compared against the old TIS software.

AVP Passmore was joined by a panel of transfer professionals from the campuses and System Administration in answering Regent questions about how the new software fits with expanded articulation agreements and other transfer initiatives; how the software will be maintained with course changes; and how courses are assessed for credit transfer.

As President of the Wisconsin Technical College Board, Regent Levzow stated that making it easier to access educational opportunities benefits students, their families, and the state.

Regent Bogost thanked UW System staff for working with the tribal colleges to make transfers more accessible to Native American students.

EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY TO TEMPORARILY WAIVE PROVISIONS OF REGENT POLICY DOCUMENTS

[\[Recording: 02:44:28\]](#)

At its April meeting the Board granted temporary authority to the System President to waive provisions of Regent Policy Documents to allow for an appropriately prompt response to the current public health emergency. Noting that the end of the initial 90-day waiver period is approaching, President Petersen said it is clear that the UW System will need continued flexibility over the next several months to respond to both the public health concerns and financial impacts resulting from COVID-19.

President Petersen indicated that Resolution 11454 would extend the System President's authority to temporarily suspend provisions of Regent policies that would prevent, hinder, or delay necessary actions to respond to the public health emergency or the abnormal economic disruption resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. This extension and any resulting waivers would be effective through December 31, 2020.

President Petersen affirmed that any significant matters affecting material board governance, or the strategic direction of the UW System and the campuses would continue to require Executive Committee or full Board approval.

Regent Grebe moved for the adoption of Resolution 11454. The motion was seconded by Regent Atwell.

Responding to a question from Regent Klein, General Counsel Quinn Williams said the Board's initial authorization was utilized by the System President to grant waivers for approval of specific contracts and to extend waivers of ACT/SAT requirements for freshman applications.

With no further questions or comments, Resolution 11454 was approved on a voice vote.

Extension of Authority to Temporarily Waive Provisions of Regent Policy Documents

Resolution 11454 That, upon the recommendation of the President of the UW System, the Board of Regents extends the delegation of authority to the UW System President to temporarily suspend the provisions of Regent Policy Documents if the UW System President determines that any provisions of the Regent Policy Documents would prevent, hinder, or delay necessary actions to respond to the public health emergency or the abnormal economic disruption resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, effective March 19, 2020, through December 31, 2020 unless so authorized or extended by the Board of Regents.

APPROVAL OF BOARD OF REGENTS REGULAR MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 2020-21

[\[Recording: 02:47:26\]](#)

Regent Woodmansee moved for the adoption of Resolution 11455, approving the Board's 2021 regular meeting schedule. The motion was seconded by Regent Stanford Taylor and approved on a voice vote.

Approval of UW System Board of Regents Regular Meeting Schedule for 2021

Resolution 11455 That, upon the recommendation of the Executive Director and Corporate Secretary, the Board of Regents adopts the attached regular-meeting schedule for calendar year 2021.

RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION FOR CHANCELLOR DEAN VAN GALEN'S SERVICE TO THE UW SYSTEM

[\[Recording: 02:48:22\]](#)

President Petersen invited Regent Cris Peterson to present the Board's resolution of appreciation for UW-River Falls Chancellor Dean Van Galen's service to the UW System.

Stating that Chancellor Van Galen has made UW-River Falls "a wonderful place," Regent Peterson read aloud the resolution of appreciation, which was adopted by acclamation.

Resolution of Appreciation for Chancellor Dean Van Galen's Service to the UW System

Resolution 11456 WHEREAS, Dean Van Galen served as the 18th Chancellor of the University of Wisconsin-River Falls from 2009-2020, bringing a student-centered leadership style that supported high-impact practices such as undergraduate research and learning outside the classroom, both close-to-home and abroad; and

WHEREAS, under Dean's leadership, the campus implemented the eight-year "Pathway to Distinction" strategic plan focusing on three goals: Distinctive Academic Excellence, Global Education and Engagement, and Innovation and Partnerships, transforming experiences for thousands of UW-River Falls students; and

WHEREAS, Dean's tenure as Chancellor included a series of firsts for UW-River Falls, including a learning center in Hudson to meet the educational needs of adult learners; a new center for holistic student success in David Rodli Hall bringing 14 student-serving offices under one roof, and the City of River Falls' first incubator, the St. Croix Valley Business Innovation Center; and

WHEREAS, under his leadership, UW-River Falls has developed innovative scholarship programs, education abroad programs, and new academic programs, including bachelor's degrees in agricultural engineering, data science and predictive analytics, neuroscience, criminology, and biomedical and health sciences; and

WHEREAS, under Dean's leadership, UW-River Falls successfully completed its reaccreditation process in 2019, during which the Higher Learning Commission noted in particular UW-River Falls' success in comprehensively integrating internationalization into the fabric of the campus; and

WHEREAS, Dean contributed to the success of the university's first comprehensive fundraising campaign, Rising to Distinction, with an emphasis on raising funds for student scholarships and the Falcon Center health and human performance facility and exceeding the \$20 million goal, raising nearly \$22 million; and

WHEREAS, Dean's ability to forge strong partnerships with local and state government officials helped attain state capital investment for facilities such as the Falcon Center, as well as planning funds for the Science and Technology Innovation Center, which will position UW-River Falls to further contribute to the economic development of the thriving St. Croix Valley region and beyond;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System hereby offers thanks to Dean Van Galen for his outstanding service as Chancellor of UW-River Falls, and wishes him well as he continues his career as President of Missouri Southern State University.

Chancellor Van Galen said it has been a privilege to serve as Chancellor of UW-River Falls for the past eleven years on both a professional and personal level. He expressed his gratitude to the current and past members of the Board of Regents, System President Ray Cross and President Emeritus Kevin Reilly, his chancellor colleagues and the many talented

staff at UW System. He stated, "I think the UW System is fortunate to have a strong sense of shared purpose and a camaraderie that is rare and should never be taken for granted."

Chancellor Van Galen gave special thanks to faculty, staff, and administrative colleagues, as well as the alumni and friends of the university, for making UW-River Falls a distinctive, student-centered institution. He also thanked the students who over the years have brought purpose and joy to his professional life.

Chancellor Van Galen concluded, "Collectively our work changes the trajectory of lives and positively impacts the future of communities, the state, and the world. Thank you for the opportunity to serve UW-River Falls and the great state of Wisconsin."

President Petersen remarked on Chancellor Van Galen's integrity and steadfast advocacy on behalf of UW-River Falls: "Tenacious leader, a fundraiser and a friend – you will be sorely missed."

President Cross offered his best wishes to Chancellor Van Galen, calling him "a wonderful person and a good friend."

ANNUAL ELECTION OF OFFICERS OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS

[\[Recording: 02:59:24\]](#)

President Petersen asked Regent Tracey Klein to preside over the annual election of officers of the Board. The Bylaws of the Board of Regents specify that officers of the Board are elected at the annual meeting held in June and hold their offices for one year until their successors are elected. Terms of office begin immediately after the June meeting.

Regent Klein called for nominations for the offices of President and Vice President of the Board of Regents.

Regent Ed Manydeeds nominated Regent Andrew S. Petersen as President and Regent Michael M. Grebe as Vice President. He stated that Regent Petersen and Regent Grebe are both approachable, willing to listen and to compromise, and always act in the best interests of the state of Wisconsin, the University of Wisconsin System and its campuses, and the students and their families.

With no other nominations for either position, Regent Petersen and Regent Grebe were re-elected President and Vice President of the Board of Regents by a voice vote.

Regent Klein ceded the floor to President Petersen to preside over the election of the remaining officers of the Board. The incumbents for these positions were:

- Jess Lathrop, Corporate Secretary of the Board;
- Sandra Cleveland, Assistant Secretary;
- Megan Wasley, Assistant Secretary;
- Sean Nelson, Trust Officer;
- Charles Saunders, Assistant Trust Officer; and
- Quinn Williams, Assistant Trust Officer.

Regent Walsh nominated the incumbents of these offices, with a second by Regent Klein. With no other nominations, the incumbent officers were re-elected on a voice vote.

Stating that it has been an honor to serve alongside all of the Regents, President Petersen expressed appreciation for the Board's trust and confidence. President Petersen promised that he and Vice President Grebe would do their level best to lead the University of Wisconsin System through the difficult times ahead with the integrity it deserves.

REGENT COMMUNICATIONS, PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

[\[Recording: 03:05:08\]](#)

There were no communications, petitions, or memorials.

CLOSED SESSION

[\[Recording: 03:05:21\]](#)

President Petersen called upon Vice President Grebe to read the motion to move into closed session. The motion was seconded by Regent Jones and adopted on a roll-call vote, with Regents Atwell, Beightol, Bogost, Colón, Delgado, Grebe, Jones, Klein, Lezow, Manydeeds, Petersen, Peterson, Saffold, Stanford Taylor, Walsh, Weatherly, and Woodmansee. There were no dissenting votes and no abstentions.

Closed Session Resolution

Resolution 11457 That the Board of Regents move into closed session to consider a student request for review of a UW-Madison disciplinary decision, as permitted by s. 19.85(1)(a), (f), and (g), Wis. Stats.

Before considering any items on the closed session agenda, President Petersen asked if any Board members wished to declare any conflicts of interest as per Regent Policy Document 2-4, "Ethics and Conflict of Interest Policy for the UW System Board of Regents."

No conflicts were declared.

During the closed session, Resolution 11458 was moved by Regent Peterson, seconded by Regent Woodmansee, and adopted on a voice vote.

Student Request for Review of a UW-Madison Disciplinary Decision

Resolution 11458 That the Board of Regents adopts the attached Proposed Decision and Order as the Board's Final Decision and Order in the matter of a student request for Regent review of a UW-Madison disciplinary decision.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

Submitted by:

/s/ Jess Lathrop

Jess Lathrop
Executive Director & Corporate Secretary
Office of the Board of Regents
University of Wisconsin System